

These minutes have not been approved by the Board of Hearing Instrument Specialists.

Minutes of the February 17, 2017 Board of Hearing Instrument Specialists Meeting

Dr. Brennan called the meeting of the Board of Hearing Instrument Specialists to order on Friday, February 17, 2017 at 1:02 p.m. in the Lower Level D Conference Room, Nebraska State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was duly publicized by distribution of the Notice of Meeting and Agenda at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting and posting the agenda at the entrance of the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

Dr. Brennan announced that this is a public meeting and the Open Meetings Law is posted.

The following Board members and Department staff were present at the meeting: Dr. Marc Brennan; Ed Granger; Misti Lutt-Chmiel; Dr. Sandra Miller; Michael Pierce; Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager; Jacye LaFayette-Dymacek, Health Licensing Coordinator; and Ami Huff, Assistant Attorney General.

Mr. Pierce moved, seconded by Dr. Miller to adopt the agenda. Voting aye: Brennan, Granger, Lutt-Chmiel, Miller, and Pierce. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Granger moved, seconded by Dr. Miller to approve the minutes from the June 3, 2016 meeting. Voting aye: Brennan, Granger, Lutt-Chmiel, Miller, and Pierce. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Ms. Lutt-Chmiel moved, seconded by Dr. Miller to go into closed session at 1:03 p.m. to hear discussions regarding confidential information and to protect the reputation of individuals name or referenced in such discussion. Voting aye: Brennan, Granger, Lutt-Chmiel, Miller, and Pierce. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Dr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Granger to return to open session at 1:32 p.m. Voting aye: Brennan, Granger, Lutt-Chmiel, Miller, and Pierce. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Granger moved, seconded by Dr. Miller to approve Scott Jones' application for reinstatement of his license to practice as a Hearing Instrument Specialist. Voting aye: Brennan, Granger, Miller, and Pierce. Voting nay: Lutt-Chmiel. Motion carried.

After discussion, Ms. Lutt-Chmiel moved, seconded by Mr. Pierce to table the scope of practice questions regarding cerumen removal and tinnitus evaluation and treatment in order to obtain further information. Voting aye: Brennan, Granger, Lutt-Chmiel, Miller, and Pierce. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Dr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Pierce to name Dr. Brennan as Chairperson, Ms. Lutt-Chmiel as Vice-Chairperson, and Dr. Miller as Secretary and Investigative Consultant. Voting aye: Brennan, Granger, Lutt-Chmiel, Miller, and Pierce. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

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After discussion, the Board decided to continue providing notice to the public regarding Board meetings by emailing the agenda to the interested parties list and posting the agenda on the Department's website and at the entrance of the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health. Voting aye: Brennan, Granger, Lutt-Chmiel, Miller, and Pierce. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Ms. Covert-ByBee provided information to the Board regarding proposed legislation currently being considered by the Nebraska Unicameral. This was for informational purposes only.

Ms. LaFayette-Dymacek provided information regarding the status of the Hearing Instrument Specialist regulations that are currently open for revision. A copy of the draft will be provided to the Board for review prior to the next meeting. This was for informational purposes only.

Dr. Brennan provided information to the Board regarding the new FDA Guidance Regarding the Sale of Hearing Instruments. This was for informational purposes only.

Ms. Covert-ByBee provided information to the Board regarding the out-of-state travel policy and the method by which Board members and Department staff must follow in order to obtain authorization for such travel. This was for informational purposes only.

Ms. LaFayette-Dymacek provided the Board a copy of the application processing report. This was for information purposes only.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, June 9, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. in the Nebraska State Office Building unless otherwise indicated. The Hearing Instrument Specialist practical examination will be held in the morning on that date.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sandra Miller, Secretary